



**MARCH 04**

# **MEDWAY & MAIDSTONE EXPRESS**



**MUSIC INDUSTRY BODS ARE IN TOWN**  
**INTERVIEWS WITH JOHN OTWAY, NINE DAYS TO NO ONE AND**  
**SULPHER (SUPPORTING GARY NUMAN)**  
**REVIEWS OF YELLOW SNOWE NEON HALO 10 SIDE ZERO**  
**REASONABLE DOUBT WILKO JOHNSON MEADOW ROAD**  
**PARKER STONE MUNKI & PARASITE**

FREE AND IN ASSOCIATION WITH **MM2K**

## Have your say !

The Medway music conference is taking place on Tuesday 9th March at the Tap n Tin. Bands, bring your phonebook, experiences and demos along. Music lovers, bring your ideas about how to improve the scene. Promoters, venue managers...don't miss out.

Please take a few minutes to complete the form in this issue, your thoughts can make a change.

Thanks to everyone for your feedback, it puts a big smile on my face x

## Issue includes...

Interview with Rob from **Sulpher** - an industrial band who supported Marilyn Manson on tour

Gig reviews of Wilko Johnson, Parker, Yellow Snowe, Stone Munki, Parasite, Battle of the Bands, Reasonable Doubt, Neon Halo, 10 Side Zero & Meadow Road

Gig previews and chat with Rachel Stamp, John Otway & The Cowpokers.

Interview with nine days to no one

MME has joined forces with Medway Music 2000 (MM2K) and [www.mnmbands.co.uk](http://www.mnmbands.co.uk) to bring you comprehensive gig listings, the latest info on music events, workshops, gig and EP reviews and interviews. [www.medwaymusic.net](http://www.medwaymusic.net)



[nixta@btopenworld.com](mailto:nixta@btopenworld.com)  
0790 452 1923

## Opus Trees on XFM

Yet another Medway band make it onto XFM. 'Too Many Fears' was played on 4th Feb, as MME were watching Perfect Circle and Auf de maur at Carling Apollo. God Damn! We caught up with singer Rob from Sulphur who joined Perfect Circle at their Birmingham gig the night before, see centre page.



## Hymns for Strange Children - Rachel Stamp at the Tap

Released from the corporate shackles of Warner Brothers, these monsters of the new wave are here to continue their journey of world domination, playing at the Tap n Tin on 10th April. Will Stamp told MME... "We're really looking forward to playing the Tap'n'Tin. It's great to get to venues we've never played before and we've heard a lot of nice things about this one. When we were offered the gig we jumped at the chance having had so much fun playing in Kent before. There's definitely a buzz about playing in smaller towns that you just can't find in London or other major cities. It's gonna be wild so strap back and enjoy the ride! See ya on the 10th April."

Tickets are on sale now for Rachel Stamp on 10th April. Get your tickets before they sell out from Sounds Perfect, 24 Railway Street, Chatham. Credit card booking line: 01634 828898. £5 in advance or £6 on the door.

Signed bands are coming to the Tap over the next couple of months, keep an eye out for the hottest new bands Dean can get his paws on.

## The Gummy Babies

Medway's answer to good ol' classic rock have their biggest show to date, headlining the Leas Cliff Hall in Folkestone on the 26th June. Tickets are £6 in advance from the band (email singer Dave on [tgb@msimpson41.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:tgb@msimpson41.fsnet.co.uk)) or the box office on 01303 253193.

## 3dbz Down on tour

The band are playing in Brighton, Canterbury, Leicester, Plymouth, Kettering and Glasgow in March and April. See [www.3dbzdown.com](http://www.3dbzdown.com) for full details.

## Play on Radio One

For your chance to be played on Radio 1, submit your tunes by downloading this form... [www.bbc.co.uk/radio1/onemusidata/demoforms/form.pdf](http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio1/onemusidata/demoforms/form.pdf)

## Record deal anyone?

American record label Ruffworld Music are searching for UK bands to sign up. Visit their website [www.ruffworld.com](http://www.ruffworld.com)

Check MM2K's site at [www.medwaymusic.net](http://www.medwaymusic.net) for gig listings, details on workshops and opportunities, links and more. You can also download a PDF of this magazine here.

## Musicians and music lovers, Don't miss out!

Medway's first ever Music Conference (organised by MM2K and Medway Council) takes place at the Tap & Tin, Railway Street, Chatham on Tuesday 9th March. A panel of leading music industry professionals will be on hand to offer advice and ideas to bands and musicians. It is also a chance to get your opinion heard on how the Medway music scene could be improved. MM2K will be providing free information packs. There is a bar and a live pop punk music set from The Barbs.

The music panel includes:

James Endeacott - A&R, **Rough Trade Records**

Peter Bradbury - **BBC Music** Copyrights Manager

Malcolm Buckland - **MCPS / PRS Alliance**

Jim Mawdsley - **META / Generator**

Trevor Mason - **Youth Music / Arts Council**

Jay Allen - **MM2K / Parklife**

Clive Austen - **Make Some Noise Records**

The session will be chaired by Mark Brown, a freelance consultant currently working with the Arts Council of England and Medway Council to look at ways of developing the music infrastructure and grass roots music scene. He is also a festival producer and a musician with extensive experience.

Book it into your diary NOW!

Tap & Tin  
Railway Street Chatham Kent  
Tuesday 9th March 2004 7.30pm

Free Entrance  
Email: [jayallen@medwaymusic.net](mailto:jayallen@medwaymusic.net)  
for more information

# GIG REVIEWS

## JOHN OTWAY AND THE COWPOKERS PREVIEW

John Otway and the Big Band will be performing at the Beacon Court on 26th March from 8pm, supported by the Cowpokers. It's going to be a very interesting night indeed.



### Have you ever heard The Darkness done as a hoedown?

The Cowpokers are Europe's first (and only) country and western glam rock duo and you can see them in all their glory supporting John Otway and the Big Band 8pm 26th March at the Beacon Court. They describe themselves as a bit like an audio Escher drawing. Their repertoire includes Cheeky girls (touch my udder), I believe in a thing called love, Stand by your man and the Cowpoker boogie - performed in their unique Country n Western Glam Rock style..



## JOHN OTWAY'S RISE FROM THE ASHES

It took 25 years after John Otway's first hit 'Cor Baby That's Really Free' for punk icon John Otway to have his second hit in 2002 with the spoof disco groove 'Bunsen Burner'. After 22 flops over 25 years and a book subtitled 'Rock n roll's greatest failure', John Otway is counting on your support and you'll be so glad you did.

We asked him a few cheeky questions to find out more.

### Was falling on your knackers on the Old Grey Whistle Test a turning point for you? ; )

Quite seriously it was overnight success - life after doing that was quite different to life before it. Audiences increased ten fold as a result and within ten days I was in the Charts and on Top Of the Pops.

### Are you really a failure?

Having messed up my career at a point in the late 80's I wrote my biography, which the publishers dubbed Rock and Roll's Greatest Failure - Many people advised me against publicising myself as a failure, but I thoroughly enjoyed it. I thought, and I think it's worked out that way, that you cannot hang on to the title if you have more Hits and play the Palladium and the Royal Albert Hall. It is my intention at some point to write a sequel to the first book and I reckon it's stronger if one climbs back phoenix like from the ashes of a self-made disaster. Anyhow, what is the point of screwing up your life if you can't get some publicity out of it :-)

### Have you managed to see any local bands recently?

Only those that have been booked to support us. I tend not to be able to get out to gigs on my nights off. There's some great talent around with the bands I have seen.

### What would the young music crowd of Medway make of your music?

We should be OK if the young music crowd turn up - It can be a bit annoying when they say things like "My Grandad is a big fan of yours" though.

[www.johnotway.com](http://www.johnotway.com)

Join us at this gig and let us know what you think.

**I am on a bit of an interviewing mission at the moment, so email questions and who you would like to see interviewed to**  
**nixta@btopenworld.com**  
**and I'll do my best**

# GIG REVIEWS

## 10 SIDE ZERO AT TAP N TIN

### THOSE PESKY GREMLINS...

...A good sized crowd gave them the benefit of the doubt during the disjointed first number and were rewarded by "Different Still," one of the band's strongest numbers straight after. The band built on this but then hit some technical problems during what they describe as their "operatic garage numbers". However, some good interplay with the audience saw them through but soon after the bassist broke a string and there was another break in the set. The remaining members kept up the vibe by jamming around the problem and soon the bass was back on line and it was time for a few more songs with some good driving rhythms and a spectacular finish.

Overall, a good set with a few problems but hopefully they'll have better luck next time.

[www.10sidezero.com](http://www.10sidezero.com)

David Wraight

## MEADOW ROAD AT FLEUR DE LIS

### ONE TO WATCH OUT FOR...

...This Gravesend band are due to play a full set at the Fleur de Lis, Burham some time soon. Tonight they played just a few cover versions in the middle of a very full jam night. They looked fairly confident onstage for a 'young' band and will be a band worth watching out for, as they start to expand their set and introduce some of their own material. Give the Fleur de Lis a ring 01634 861193 for details of their future gig.

Dave Wraight

Email reviews to

[nixta@btopenworld.com](mailto:nixta@btopenworld.com).

We would really like to hear from people who regularly attend a particular venue. Also, let us know if you would like us to come and review your gig or be featured within the magazine.

## WILKO JOHNSON AT THE BEACON COURT

### DOWN TO THE DOCTORS...



...I needed a bit of a check up, so I referred myself to the self ordained doctor of Canvey Island staccato guitar playing. This is the one they call Wilko Johnson, formerly of Doctor Feelgood and still playing music that excites even the youngest post modern.

Wilko made his name as guitarist and songwriter with legendary R&B act Dr. Feelgood - not a virtuoso in the usual sense of the word. He plays rhythm guitar in a unique choppy style, using his bare hands to punctuate the music - no plectrums, just bloody fingers and bare knuckles! In fact everything is stripped bare, a Fender Telecaster played through a simple amplifier - wot, no special effects I hear you ask? Not one bit.

The whole band is in effect one huge rhythm machine, which gets into your head, armpits, legs and a few other places. Wilko is an angular figure who uses his entire body to release his music on stage, cavorting across the stage in a series of jerky excursions, eyes extended on stalks, whilst attached to a red curly guitar lead makes this a sight that must be witnessed to be fully appreciated. The band is also impressive, with a very young boy drummer who did extremely well to hold the thing together, with Norman Watt-Ro y, the bass player from Ian Drury and the Blockheads - a true prodigy. The trio pound through the set, dwelling slightly on Doctor Feelgood material, but supplementing it with newer and some older pieces. The Beacon Court has taken a risk in putting some really tasty bands up recently. It's worth checking out the list of talent, both new and old, that's coming up. They were supported by Cell Block 9, the perfect complement to Wilko, as they are a Dr Feelgood style tribute band. A good warm up for a night that 'did what it said on the tin', it made you FEEL GOOD. We knew that we would. So, bring your friends next time from the Neighbourhood!

Piggy

# GIG LISTINGS



## MARCH 2004



**Mon 1** Kerbstone + support @ Bar M

**Weds 3** Catch the eye + Chasing Chaos @ RAF club

**Thurs 4** Tortilla Army, Big Wednesday, New Rose @ Beacon Court B.O.B £1 entry 1st band 8.45  
Cherubs play the Bristol Colston Hall (with The Libertines)

**Fri 5** Opus Trees @ TapnTin  
Sharpsters @ Beacon Court Free  
3dbs down and One Day Elliott at The Stripes Club, Folkestone

Parasite+Hindsight+Inside the mind of Henry Holmes @ Bar M

**Sat 6** UpCDownC @ TapnTin  
TBC @ RAF Club

**Mon 8** Cherubs @ Water Rats, London

A band with no name + Dogma @ Bar M

**Tues 9** 3dbs down and Da Skywalkers at The Beer Cart Arms, Canterbury

**Thurs 11** Keratin, Hedstrong, Intrinsic @ Beacon Court B.O.B £1 entry 1st band 8.45  
Godless Reds @ Buffalo Bar, London 8pm

**Fri 12** Nine days to no one and Trauma Unit @ Tap n Tin

Dirty Bertie @ Beacon Court Free

Last Laugh ('the sound of metallica shagging britney spears') @ Ruskin Arms, 386 High St North, Manor Park (East Ham tube) 9.15pm  
The Delaners + support @ Bar M

**Sat 13** Chas & Dave @ Beacon Court, £10

Nexus + Support @ Red Lion, £4 9.30pm

**Mon 15** Ten side zero + Car crash television @ Bar M

**Weds 17** Kryptonite, Parasite, The Gilt Trip, Sibling Rivalry @ RAF Club

**Thurs 18** Flem, Diabloliliak, Phobias @ Beacon Court B.O.B £1 entry 1st band 8.45

**Fri 19** First Time Felony + Morgans Puff Adder @ Bar M

**Sun 21** Cherubs @ Buffalo Bar, London

**Mon 22** Phobias + The Shag Monroes + Vicarage Lane @ Bar M

**Thurs 25** Jacuzzi 9mm, Glisten, Creation One @ Beacon Court B.O.B £1 entry 1st band 8.45

**Fri 26** John Otway's Big Band + Cowpokers @ Beacon Court £9

Nexus + p.h.fatt @ Bar M

**Mon 29** The Gummy Babies + support at Bar M  
The Buff Medways + The Fire Department @ The Dirty Water Club, Boston Arms, 178 Junction Road, London

(opp. Tufnell Park tube) 8.30pm-2am.

**Weds 31** Rhetorical, First time felony + Story so far @ RAF Club

### REGULAR CLUB NITES:

**Every Friday** @ TapnTin - warning:rockets

DJ Tyn-b and the rivals play the best in new

and old indie.alternative.rock.nroll. £2

**Every Friday** Feedback @ Manor Club

Indie/Northern Soul/Britpop, 60's+70's bands upstairs

then club below

### VENUES:

The Barge, 63 Layfield Rd, Gillingham

The Tap n Tin, 24 Railway Street, Chatham

The Command House, Dock Road, Chatham

The Beacon Court Tavern, Canterbury Street, Gillingham

Eagle Tavern, Rochester High St

The Oast House, Granary Close, Rainham

Bar M, 3 New Road, Chatham, Kent

Union Bar, 1-9 Pudding Lane, Maidstone

The Red Lion, Crete Hall Road, Gravesend

Mick Jagger Centre, Shepherds Lane Dartford

01322 291100

Pulse 79 High Street, Chatham

Jazz & Blues Cafe, 110 Week Street, Maidstone

Check out [www.medway.music.net](http://www.medway.music.net) and

[www.mnmbands.co.uk](http://www.mnmbands.co.uk) for the latest gig updates



**Gig listings are published free of charge.**

**Email details of your event, gig or club**

**night to nixta@btopenworld.com**

**before the 20th of the preceding month**

**for inclusion in the latest issue.**

**Rock jam** every Tues at The Command House - all

playing abilities are welcome 8.30 till 11

# INTERVIEW WITH SULPHUR

**Rob Holliday has been the live guitarist for The Mission for the past few years, has played live bass and guitar for Gary Numan and appeared live with pals The Perfect Circle in Feb 04. Since his band's first appearance in Germany in 2001, they have supported Marilyn Manson and have made huge waves throughout Europe. We caught up with Rob...**



**DJ Rex of Full Tilt at Camden's Electric Ballroom (<http://tsoundscape.forumer.com>) recommended I look you guys up after declaring my need for NIN-esque performance.**

**What inspires your music and why do you think Trent Reznor's music is so successful?**

Our music is inspired by many things - by emotion, other music that has emotion, other music that is real - music that makes the audience feel that they are actually part of something that is real. We were inspired by a general need for something better than the lifeless drivel that is all over radio and TV right now, stuff that is rammed down the consumers throat, so called 'music' that the general population is force fed and brainwashed into believing it's what they should be listening to and buying - this is what inspires us - the need to make music not for the sake of money, but to actually make something to be proud of. Trent (Reznor) is a great musician/artist/producer and performer along with many others, this is why he and they are a success.

**How would you describe your music in 3 words?**

Love. Pain. Hate.

**What music do you guys listen to?**

Killing Joke, The Cure, Deftones, Depeche Mode, Aphex Twin, Skinny Puppy, Prodigy - we are into highs and lows, dynamics, texture - emotion - the mix between the use of classic rock instruments and technology.

**Where are you based? How did Sulpher get together?**

We are based in London. Myself and Monti met while playing in Curve - we came back off tour and had become great friends, we found we were into a lot of the same music, it was only natural to continue working together as neither of us were touring with anyone else shortly after. Mud joined the band about a year and a half later when

we decided to go out and gig as we had always planned to be a live band and not just a studio project.

**Did Rob join Perfect Circle on stage at Birmingham Academy? (We saw them for the first time at Carling Academy London on 3rd Feb - they were awesome. Magdalena was mind blowing).**

Yeah, that was great. I've known Billy and Josh for a long time and they called me in the afternoon of the show and thought it would be fun to jam onstage. I played in the song 'Thomas' it was good to see them - they are an amazing band, all fantastic musicians! I met them working as a waitress in a cocktail bar, hmm I think!

**What do you think of Gary Numan's latest music, do you think it still packs a punch like the old stuff ie 'Cars'?**

We've worked with Gary quite a bit in the last few years, on his 'Pure' album and the hybrid remix record. I've played a number of shows and TV stuff playing bass and guitar - at the upcoming gigs I'll be doing the same. Gary has a great band but no permanent bass player. I think he likes the addition of a live bass in the show, it adds another dimension to the sound as opposed to just a synth bass type deal. Mud played bass on Top of the Pops when the track 'Crazier'. Gary is a pioneer in electronic music, yet still very down to earth and easy to collaborate with - the new stuff he's working on right now sounds great, it's hard to compare it to the 80's stuff, it's very different. I do love 'Cars', 'Me I disconnect', 'Metal' and 'Films', they are a few of my fave Numan tracks.

**How many CDs has Sulpher produced and how has your sound evolved?**

Sulpher have a few singles and one album 'Spray'. We hope to have the 2nd album completed in the next few months, 'Delete' is a working title, I'm sure it will change a million times before the release. I think our sound evolves all the time, constantly changing. It's a never ending journey, we're never completely satisfied with how it sounds when listening back to the last record. We constantly pick it apart and think of things we could change but you kind of have to leave it alone and move on. We are anxious to get out playing live again but we don't want to rush the record just to throw something sub standard out, we won't put it out until we are totally happy with it.

[www.sulpher.co.uk](http://www.sulpher.co.uk)



# GIG REVIEWS

## NINE DAYS TO NO ONE, PARASITE AND STONE MUNKI AT THE RAF CLUB



About 30 people came to the RAF club, opposite the Command House, for a night of grunge and metal noise. Vic Wintergreen played some choice tracks from System of a Down, Rammstein, and a Perfect Circle remix (anyone have it?) as the bands set up.

Stone Munki were first up, performing well written grunge songs, the dramatic structure reminded me of Alice and Chains and Stone Temple Pilots. I think with more gigs under their belt, they will fulfill their obvious potential. Very enjoyable.

Parasite (pictured left) were very tight from the start and hit the sense with a full on heaviness complete with guttural roaring from singer Will, fantastic drumming from Guy with gabba speed bass hits and timely basslines of doom from Geoff. Their energy is fantastic, the simple, grinding structure created muchos tingling, ooo-er.

Nine days to no one (see left and below) perform with no rules, but you can be sure that Steve makes good use of the space available, throwing himself into the crowd and putting all his energy into a passionate vocal attack. Each band member is transfixed on their performance; bass player Matt strikes poses of dark workshop whilst playing unbelievably fast and complex riffs, guitarist Marc works with powerful drummer Chris to whip up a metal frenzy. These guys are like trapped animals fighting for freedom. A must see band for those who need the dark side in their lives.

## INTERVIEW WITH NINE DAYS TO NO ONE

**How long has the band been together and how did you come up with the name 'nine days to no one'?** We got together at the end of 2001 and basically holed up for months in a room getting the sounds we wanted. We jammed, discarded and jammed more. We tried out a few people as well, but it felt right with the four of us. The band name is just our opinion of a novena. (Chris)

**What makes you get up onto that stage and perform?**

When we play we're all totally engrossed in what we're doing, whether its (to) a handful of people or a full on pit, or just us four jamming, you learn to keep out of the way of the others, it gets pretty intense sometimes. (Louie)

**How would you describe your music to someone who has never heard it before?** I can't stand describing our music. I'd rather take other peoples perception of it. I suppose the best way to describe it is Fucking Dark & Heavy (not that you'll be putting that) (good description - why not?), a couple of sites and promoters have dubbed us artcore, but I'm not quite sure what that means... (Marc)

**Why should people come to your gigs?** 'Cos we get our kit off! I don't know it's hard to say, but personally Steve still entertains me so that's worth seeing, just don't stand near him when he's got a mic stand. (Marc)

**What bands do you listen to?** Anything and everything; our tastes are pretty broad. From Depeche Mode to weird-arse shit like Frog Brigade right through to Old Man Gloom. (Stephen)

**What album could you not live without?** We all came up with some classics, but then Chris mentioned 'And Justice For All' and we couldn't better that.

**Are there any local bands you're fond of?** Yeah, Igloo Man - they're the nutz! There's loads of good bands around here, although it can sometimes be a bit clicky. (Louie)

**At what point did you get recognition from the industry, how were you approached and by who?** It was only about six weeks ago. All of a sudden we got a bunch of promoters and a few record companies mail us. We weren't expecting it to kick off the way it did, so we had to make our minds up pretty quick. When we met David from Engineer, we just felt really comfortable, not only did he offer us exactly what we wanted to hear, he seemed to be on a level with what people want. You've only gotta look at some of his bands such as Eden Maine & Planes Mistaken For Stars to see that. His uncanny resemblance to Silent Bob is what really swung it for us... (Marc)

**What is the plan for this year?** Write a new EP and then gig the arse off of it, meet some new people, and just generally do what we set out to do, make music that we like and hopefully other people do to, oh and some money would be nice too. (Chris)

**What venue would you love to play? What act would you most like to support?** The Viper Rooms at the Will Haven & Botch reunion gig! (Stephen)



# NEW TUNES AND GIG REVIEWS

**Nine days to no one** release their EP *Disrecordings* on 11th March through Engineer Records. You can pre order it and receive the latest news from the record label via [www.ninedaystonoone.com](http://www.ninedaystonoone.com)

**Calling Nova's** new album is released this month, featuring 13 tracks, including *Angry*, *Bite Me* - reworked, *Postcards*, *You Only Knew*, *Pestered Heart*, *Wait and C\*\*tball*. Visit [www.callingnova.com](http://www.callingnova.com)

**CD reviews have been held over till April due to the amount of stuff that is getting packed into this issue! Please continue to send in your music...**

## NEON HALO AND REASONABLE DOUBT AT BAR M

### DOWN WITH THE GRUNGE

It was a grunge bonanza with three bands on the bill. Second on the bill was Neon Halo playing to an audience who had obviously come to see them, and they weren't disappointed. A good set with an interesting double vocalist arrangement.

Reasonable Doubt headlined. They attracted a more mixed audience than the younger Neon Halo crowd but they knew how to make em work. The band seemed to have a few technical problems which resulted in a few pauses and squeaks but again, another good grunge session with a bit more variety than the previous set.

Krip Tonic, first on the bill, also deserve a mention for their first gig. I don't know how it went because I arrived late but I have seen them trying out a few of their numbers at the now defunct White Horse jam nights. Then they seemed to be getting a decent sound together and they have got the most eye catching guitar in Medway - lime green/yellow.

<http://groups.msn.com/Kriptonic>

<http://groups.msn.com/neonhalo>

Reasonable Doubt [www.rdmatal.cjb.net](http://www.rdmatal.cjb.net)

If you're in a band try out this link and see who you measure up with.

<http://members.aol.com/groovydougie/quizzes/grunge.htm>

David Wraight

## PARKER AT BAR M

### PARKER GETS HEAVY...

Parker are already earning themselves a name outside the Medway circuit and you can hear why. It's a beautiful sound but is it pop, rock or ballad? The easy answer is yes, yes and yes with no apparent conscious decision to go in any particular direction. You can hear a hint of Verve, Blur, Wishbone, Ash, with plenty of other stuff but it's probably just a happy accident. The mix was a little heavier than previous gigs. Joe does a splendid job on vocals, previously some of the faster numbers have suggested that his voice is happier with a slightly slower pace but he seemed to have no problem with that tonight. There was some very neat guitar work by Chris and Mash (often harmonizing nicely with Joe's vocals), and quality support on drums and bass by Mike and Neale.

[www.parkeronline.tk](http://www.parkeronline.tk)

David Wraight

## YELLOW SNOWE AT BEACON COURT

### A 'GRETAL' SOUND...

Apparently Yellow Snowe only started gigging last year, which explains the hint of inexperience - but you could not fault them for the tremendous energy they created onstage. Leaping and jumping about apart, the vocals were a little weak but some more gigs and better sound should solve that and similarly a bit more practice should bring on the promising drummer. Yellow Snowe class themselves as a "gretal" band, a sort of post-g runge/indie/metal mix and last year the Kent Messenger were calling them Maidstone's hottest new band.

Great fun to watch but you'll be exhausted after watching these guys. Definitely a band to watch develop.

[www.yellowsnowe.com](http://www.yellowsnowe.com)

Dave Wraight

Email reviews of local music or details of your band's new release...  
[nixta@btopenworld.com](mailto:nixta@btopenworld.com)

## PRELIM HEAT 1 BATTLE OF THE BANDS AT BEACON COURT

The heats have begun. I was pleasantly surprised to find that the Beacon Court was packed full of fans supporting the bands.

First up were PH Fat who describe their music as classic rock/metal. The 3 piece kicked off with a lively set and the bass player and guitarist were having the time of their lives. At times, the lead singer looked a bit nervous and the band weren't as tight as they could have been, but they'll overcome this with practice. It's always difficult playing first, but they did a good job and the audience was ready for more.

Tallon, a 5 piece from Sittingbourne opened their set with what sounded suspiciously like a re-written cover of "The only thing that looks good on me is you" by Bryan Adams, the band looked serious and the audience lost interest. They sounded out of place; better suited to playing at holiday camps. I'm not saying that to be harsh, this was the general opinion - they even describe themselves as a "functions band".

The final band Stone munki was heavily recommended by the lads from Skurge and they didn't disappoint. The audience pushed forward and the atmosphere buzzed,

people stomping their feet and nodding their heads along to the energetic grunge set. Stone munki had clearly won within their opening number - Alive. Great songs, good musicians, full sound and performance. They won all 3 judge votes as well as the audience vote. The band makes a welcome addition to the 2nd round, drawn on Thursday 22nd April. See full list of bands to be drawn.

[www.beaconcourttavern.com](http://www.beaconcourttavern.com)

**Steve Peace**

**Glastonbury 2004 line ups are rife on the web and its looking to be another top year for eclectic tastes. Get ready to buy this year's tickets at [www.aloud.com](http://www.aloud.com) on 1st April, debit cards only.**

**Oasis, Kings of Leon, James Brown, Damien Rice (the new Howie Day), Blondie, John Otway (see preview in this issue), Faithless, Idlewild, The Cure and The Strokes are rumoured to play. Did you submit your entry to play a stage this year, featured in last month's MME? Let us know how it goes!**

**See you at Glasto... Maybe we could create a Medway music camp??? Lol ; )**

## LETTERS...

Greetings and salutations.

My name is Steve and I play in a medway based band known as Last Laugh. Browsing through Sounds Perfect t'other day, I happened across a copy of your magazine. I found it a pleasure to read, talking with authority and passion about our local music scene. Kudos.

As a result of this, it would have been madness if I did not drop you a line regarding my band, with the fond hope of inclusion in your gig guide (*how could I refuse!* - NH).

Last Laugh's music has been described as 'snotty, raw rock and roll with something to say' and 'the sound of Metallica shagging Britney Spears'. We are thrilled to be able to announce we have bagged a spot at the infamous Ruskin Arms in London, the venue which has previously played host to such great British bands as the mighty Iron Maiden. We appear on Friday, 12th March at 9.15pm. The nearest tube station for the Ruskin is East Ham, 386 High Street North, Manor Park. This is our small part in taking the quality music being made in Medway to a wider audience.

We have our debut EP available from next month, and a number of gigs closer to home in the pipeline (watch this space). Look forward to your next issue.

Love Steve

Hi MME,

My band and I are lookin for a practice room, preferably with drums and guitar amps and in the Maidstone area, but anywhere around would be good for us

...Oh and we don't really wanna be charged the earth for it too thanx!

Andy Hill

[show\\_me\\_your\\_otter@hotmail.com](mailto:show_me_your_otter@hotmail.com)

Nine days to no one have a new van and it's looking quite bare...

Guitarist Marc says, "send us any of your own band stickers or pictures to us..."

[ninedaystonoone@hotmail.com](mailto:ninedaystonoone@hotmail.com)

**EMERGENCY PA HIRE**

Don't cancel your gig! From £75 a night (Medway). Free delivery, collection, setup & services of technician.

Call 07748 632 038

Email [nixta@btopenworld.com](mailto:nixta@btopenworld.com) if you would like to put a notice here

whether you're after a support band, a musician for a new band or help with a demo...

Instruments for sale/needed - just let us know.

# NEXT MONTH...

letters

GIG REVIEWS

interviews

THE LATEST DEMOS

results of music survey

Email **nixta@btopenworld.com**, visit **www.medwaymusic.net**  
for magazine download and news, **www.mnmbands.co.uk** for  
downloads, chatroom, gig listings and more...



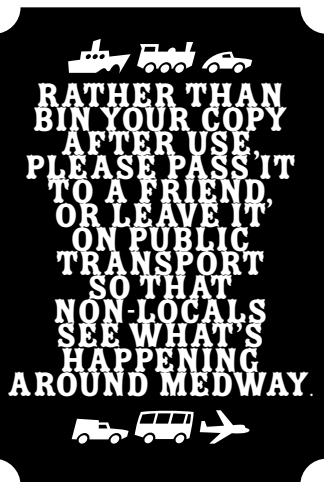
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**Rob from Sulpher**

MME is published by Me each month and is distributed throughout the area to places and people that support live music. It is free of charge to you readers, but a big thanks goes out to venues and shop owners for contributing to the production costs.

While every care is taken to provide accurate information, we cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions, no matter how caused. Please check with the venue concerned regarding events, as details can change at short notice.

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We aim to be fair in everything we write, reviews are written by gig-goers making personal judgements (which do not always match those of the publisher). Go check the talent out for yourself and tell us what you think.



# SITES

## **Bands...**

[www.alienglish.com](http://www.alienglish.com)  
[www.aswesleep.com](http://www.aswesleep.com)  
[www.avillaband.com](http://www.avillaband.com)  
[www.callingnova.com](http://www.callingnova.com)  
[www.controlofreason.com](http://www.controlofreason.com)  
[www.delayedexperience.co.uk](http://www.delayedexperience.co.uk)  
[www.freewebs.com/lyca](http://www.freewebs.com/lyca)  
[www.freewebs.com/tapt](http://www.freewebs.com/tapt)  
[www.fuzznroll.co.uk](http://www.fuzznroll.co.uk)  
[www.godlessreds.co.uk](http://www.godlessreds.co.uk)  
<http://groups.msn.com/Neonhalo>  
[www.insidethemindofhenryholmes.com](http://www.insidethemindofhenryholmes.com)  
[www.johnotway.com](http://www.johnotway.com)  
[www.longweekend.co.uk](http://www.longweekend.co.uk)  
[www.morganspuffadder.com](http://www.morganspuffadder.com)  
<http://mysite.freemove.com/thegummybabies>  
[www.ninedaystonoone.com](http://www.ninedaystonoone.com)  
[www.onedayelliott.co.uk](http://www.onedayelliott.co.uk)  
[www.opustrees.co.uk](http://www.opustrees.co.uk)  
[www.orphanweb.net](http://www.orphanweb.net)  
[www.parasite1.tk](http://www.parasite1.tk)  
Reasonable Doubt [www.rdmatal.cjb.net](http://www.rdmatal.cjb.net)  
[www.scapa-flow.net](http://www.scapa-flow.net)  
[www.skurge.co.uk](http://www.skurge.co.uk)  
[www.10sidezero.com](http://www.10sidezero.com)  
[www.thebarbs.co.uk](http://www.thebarbs.co.uk)  
[www.theebillychildish.com](http://www.theebillychildish.com)  
[www.thegilttrip.com](http://www.thegilttrip.com)  
[www.3dbdown.com](http://www.3dbdown.com)  
[www.upcdownc.com](http://www.upcdownc.com)

[www.yellowsnowe.com](http://www.yellowsnowe.com)

[www.wearethemeek.co.uk](http://www.wearethemeek.co.uk)

## **Advice and information...**

[www.bl.uk/collections/sound-archive/record.html](http://www.bl.uk/collections/sound-archive/record.html) is a guide to the major record labels and their subsidiaries  
[www.bbc.co.uk/radio1/onemusic](http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio1/onemusic)  
[www.sonymusic.co.uk](http://www.sonymusic.co.uk)

## **Downloads, gigs, reviews...**

MM2K site [www.medwaymusic.net](http://www.medwaymusic.net)  
[www.mnmbands.co.uk](http://www.mnmbands.co.uk)  
[www.kentindie.co.uk](http://www.kentindie.co.uk)  
[www.hardplace.net](http://www.hardplace.net)  
[www.consorted.co.uk](http://www.consorted.co.uk)  
[www.kentgigs.com](http://www.kentgigs.com)  
[www.skinchimney.com](http://www.skinchimney.com)

## **Studios...**

[www.broadwoodmusic.com](http://www.broadwoodmusic.com)  
[www.bwhost.co.uk/ranscombe](http://www.bwhost.co.uk/ranscombe)

## **Images...**

[www.anjali.org.uk](http://www.anjali.org.uk)  
[www.ellaguru.org.uk](http://www.ellaguru.org.uk)  
[www.fipzie.com](http://www.fipzie.com)  
[www.sextonming.co.uk](http://www.sextonming.co.uk)

## **Venues...**

[www.tapntin.co.uk](http://www.tapntin.co.uk)  
[www.thecommandhouse.co.uk](http://www.thecommandhouse.co.uk)  
[www.myofficesecretary.com/thebarge](http://www.myofficesecretary.com/thebarge)  
[www.beaconcourttaavern.com](http://www.beaconcourttaavern.com)

## **Promoters...**

[www.cortex-rock.co.uk](http://www.cortex-rock.co.uk)